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UNCLAS HELSINKI 001263

SIPDIS

STATE FOR IO

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: FINLAND SUPPORTS MDA PROTOCOL

REF: SECSTATE 220751

**¶1.** (U) In response to reftel, post confirmed that Finland strongly supports the U.S. position on the MDA protocol. The MFA's Director of International Law is in Geneva presently and will represent Finland if the protocol comes to a vote. The Finns believe that the protocol will be approved despite the last-minute change in Syrian tactics.

HYATT